

# Victims' Voice

Newsletter For Those Impacted By Crime

# From the Director of Victim Services



Dating violence is more common than people think, especially among teens and young adults: one in three teens in the US will experience physical, sexual, or emotional abuse from someone they're in a relationship with before they become adults, and nearly half (43%) of college women report experiencing violent or abusive dating behaviors.

Every February, young people and their loved ones join together across the country for a national effort to raise awareness about the issue of teen dating violence through Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM). This annual, month-long push focuses on advocacy and education to stop dating abuse before it starts.

The theme for TDVAM 2022 is Talk About It. Talk About It is a call to action to young people and those who support them to engage in meaningful conversations about healthy relationships and navigate what may be unhealthy or even abusive.

Love is respect advocates are available 24/7 and offer confidential support for teens, young adults, and their loved ones seeking help, resources, or information related to healthy relationships and dating abuse in the US. They are available by text ("LOVEIS" to 22522), call (866.331.9474), or live chat online.

Stay Safe!

Tamíka Dobbíns

# February 2022

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### **Victim Services Mission**

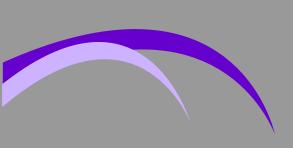
To support victims, their families, and the laws that protect their rights, while utilizing recognized principles of offender behavioral change to help reduce the risk of repeat criminal behavior.

### **Victim Services Provides:**

- Information regarding the status of offenders in prison with felony convictions
- Registration for victim notification
- Assistance with threats, unwanted calls/correspondence from an offender

### **Victim Services Activities:**

- Community education programs
- Coordination with the Board of Parole, Attorney General's Office, and the Tennessee District Attorney General's Office to respond to victims' concerns
- Education to TDOC staff to increase awareness of victims' issues
- Collaboration with other victim advocates



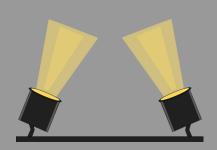
# Victims Services Highlights....Let's meet





Laura McConnell has worked for the Tennessee Department of Correction (Community Supervision) for 11 ½ years out of the Sullivan County office. She has carried a caseload of both probationers and parolees. Currently, she works as a Court Officer, backup Intake Officer, Regional Victim Coordinator, and Security Threat Group (STG) Coordinator. Laura has a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology. She and her family reside in Kingsport, TN and are very active in their church.

Thank you Laura for all the hats you wear and all you do for victims in Tennessee!





# Felony Offender Information Lookup (FOIL) MOBILE APPLICATION - DOWNLOAD THE NEW VERSION!

Are you using the old FOIL app on a mobile device? Well, it's time to download the MyTN! Effective Tuesday, February 1,2022 the old FOIL mobile app will not retrieve data, but instead will display text to download the MyTN app. FOIL on MyTN contains offender information such as offender photos, name, date of birth, sentence dates, active sentences, etc. This is a public app. It also has many other services that you may find helpful such as driver services, vital records, veterans services, unemployment, drug offender registry, health abuse registry, park reservations, burn permits, and restaurant inspection scores, just to name a few.



### **End Slavery Tennessee**

2021 was a year of wonderful changes and unpredictability for End Slavery Tennessee (ESTN). We've adapted, focused our efforts, and harnessed this growing potential at every step along the way. So, we want you to have an inside look at the state of the agency.

Thanks to our 2021 Restoration Report, you can find updated data on human trafficking in our backyards, learn more about ESTN's specialized approach, and read incredible stories of healing and restoration.

Your commitment to this vision - to eradicate human trafficking in the state of Tennessee - empowers ESTN to continue this fight!

Read the full report through the link below!

<u> 2021 Annual Report (squarespace.com)</u>





# **Victim Services Monthly Statistics**

# **Central Office Phone Calls**

# **Central Office Mailed Notifications**

Telephone Calls	January	Notifications Mailed	January
Phone calls Received/Returned	199	Registrations/Voice	63
Parties Registered for Notifications (phone/mail/fax/email)	125	Movement	39
Harassment/Threats/No Contact	2	Advance Release	228
Referrals	37	Final Release *	43
Release/Parole Inquiry	79	Death	19
Other	73	Other	3



# Notification Statistics By Delivery Method Report 1-01-2022 to 1-31-2022

Agency	Month	Email	ТТҮ	SMS	Phone	InApp	Letter	Total
TN Department of Correction	January 2022	6,320	4	15,105	2,813	363	n/a	25,605
	AGENCY TO- TALS	6,320	4	15,105	2,813	363	n/a	24,605
OVERALI	.TOTALS	6,320	4	15,105	2,813	363	n/a	24,605

# New Registration Statistics By Registrant Classification 1-01-2022 to 1-31-2022

		Anonymous	Concerned citizen	Family mem- ber of offender	Family mem- ber of victim	Law enforce- ment	Not Reported	Other	Victim	Victim coordina- tor/advocate	Total
TN Department of Correction	January 2022	95	102	475	230	878	4,990	197	74	5	7,046
	AGENCY TO- TALS	95	102	475	230	878	4,990	197	74	5	7,046
OVERALL	TOTALS	95	102	475	230	878	4,990	197	74	5	7,046



# Have you lost someone to homicide?

Losing someone you love to murder is traumatic and devastating. It can leave you feeling trapped by unrelenting thoughts of grief, pain and loneliness with no one to talk to.

If you or someone you know would be interested in attending a homicide loss support group, visit the link or QR code below to sign up for more information.

TNDAGC.org/support

We are here to help you find peace of mind and start to overcome your grief.











The Tennessee Treasury Department will offer free training to advocates, covering the benefits and guidelines of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Program.

There is no charge for the workshop. Advocates who attend will learn the application process, the appeal process, and how to complete and appropriately document a claim application. Attendance certificates will be provided for those attending the majority of the workshop.

To receive invitations to upcoming trainings, please contact the Division of Claims and Risk Management at (615) 741-2734.

# **Upcoming Training Opportunities for Victim Advocates**

Please note that all dates and locations are tentative until the registration link opens and/or the date is specified below.

WebEx - Interactive webinar
Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 2:00 PM (CT)WebEx - Interactive webinar
Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 10:00 AM (CT)WebEx - Interactive webinar
Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 2:00 PM (CT)WebEx - Interactive webinar

To register, please visit Criminal Injuries Compensation



# **Rape Prevention Education Institute 2022**

Monday April 4th & Tuesday April 5th Franklin Marriott Cool Springs Hotel, Franklin TN



# **CONNECT • PROTECT • PREVENT**

From Awareness to Action



The Coalition's annual Rape Prevention Education Institute is a free two-day conference for prevention professionals, educators, practitioners, and change makers to discuss the latest methods and trends in the field of sexual assault prevention.

# Register at the link below!

2022 Rape Prevention Education Institute | TN Coalition (pathlms.com)

The last day to book your hotel room at the special discounted rate is March 14, 2022. Book at the link below today!

Book Your Group Rate | Marriott International



# Applications now open to attend the in-person Senator Tommy Burks Victim Assistance Academy, June 5th-10th, 2022!

The Senator Tommy Burks Victim Assistance Academy is a project of the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence. The Academy is a comprehensive basic level training designed for victim service providers. The goal of the Academy is to improve services to crime victims by enhancing the knowledge and skills of victim advocates. This 40 hour Tennessee-specific training is modeled after the National Victim Assistance Academy.

Join us at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga for this week-long training June 5th-10th, 2022!

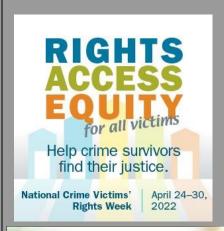
A limited number of applicants will be accepted.

The deadline to apply is March 30th.

Questions about applying or the Academy?

**Contact Megan Batista** 

training@tncoalition.org



# WHAT YOU CAN DO IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF CRIME WHAT VICTIMS CAN DO IF THEY'RE A

Tennessee Domestic Violence Hotline - 800-356-6767

National Domestic Violence Hotline - 800.799.SAFE

Battered Women's Justice Project - 800.903.0111

Mothers Against Drunk Driving - 877.MADD.HELP

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children - 800.843.5678

Tennessee Human Trafficking Hotline—1-855-558-6484

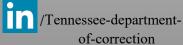
National Human Trafficking Hotline - 888.373.7888

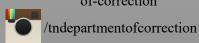
Sexual Assault Center 24 Hour Crisis & Support: 1-866-811-RISE (7473)

# Stay Connected With #TeamTDOC! Follow Us:













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